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10/789,340	02/26/2004	Toshio Sada	04054CIP/HG	9078
1933	7590	06/01/2007	EXAMINER	
FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN & CHICK, PC			BETTON, TIMOTHY E	
220 Fifth Avenue			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/789,340	SADA ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Timothy E. Betton	1614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) 1-25 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-11 are drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising effective amounts of an angiotensin II receptor antagonist and an ACAT inhibitor as active ingredients, classified in class 514 and subclass 381. If this Group is elected then the below summarized species election is also required.
  
- II. Claims 12-25 are drawn to a method for the prevention or treatment of arteriosclerosis, classified in class 514 and subclass 381. If this Group is elected then the below summarized species election is also required.

The inventions are distinct, each from each other because:

Inventions I-II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product. See MPEP § 806 05(h). In the instant case, the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product. For instance, the active

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ingredients of certain moieties of this specific classification of agent may also be used to palliate ocular disorders by relieving aqueous/vitreous pressure.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicants are advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicants are required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-3, 5 -7, 9-11, 13, 15-20, and 22-25 are generic.

Applicants are advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species.

MPEP § 809.02(a).

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Should applicants' traverse on grounds that the species are not patentably distinct, applicants should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is so. In either instance, if the Examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

***Election of Species for Group I and Group II***

Applicants' are required to elect one exact and specific angiotensin II receptor antagonist, i.e., either 1) irbesartan 2) valsartan 3) candesartan or 4) telmesartan form 5) losartan, or 6) olmesartan. Alternately, however, applicants' may elect a generic undefined angiotensin II receptor as included in generic claim 1, but not cited in the instant claims specifically.

Also, applicants' are required to elect one exact and specific ACAT inhibitor, wherein the ACAT inhibitor is: 1) FR- 129169, 2) CI- 1011, 3) F- 1394, 4) F-12511, 5) T- 2591, 6) FCE-28654, 7) K-I0085, 8) HL-004, 9) NTE-122, 10) FR-186054, 11) N- (1-octyl-5-carboxymethyl-4, 6-dimethylindolin-7-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropaneamide, or 12) N- (1-pentyl-4, 6-dimethylindolin-7-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropaneamide or a 13) pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof. Alternately, however, applicants' may elect a generic undefined ACAT inhibitor as included in generic claim 1, but not cited in instant claims 5-10 specifically.

Instant claim 9 is drawn to a combination formulation for an angiotensin II receptor antagonist and ACAT inhibitor. If applicant elects said combination formulation,

there must be the election of one specifically defined unit combination, i.e., two antagonist/one inhibitor; one antagonist/ two inhibitors; two antagonists/ two inhibitors, etc. or pharmaceutically accepted salt thereof. Applicant must elect one combination, wherein all components are specifically named.

Instant claims 12-25 (Group II) are drawn to a method for the prevention or treatment. The species contained in instant claims 13,16-18, 20, and 23-25 are drawn to the required species election for Group I, i.e., elect one specific angiotensin II receptor antagonist and/or ACAT inhibitor or a specifically defined combination thereof.

#### *Election/Restrictions Proper*

MPEP §809.02(d) states “[w]here only generic claims are presented, no restriction can be required except in those applications where the generic claims recite such a multiplicity of species that an unduly extensive and burdensome search is necessary.” In this instant case, the claims cited are of such a multiplicity of species that an unduly extensive and burdensome search would be necessary if all of the claimed species were to be examined together.

The present claims are directed toward a polymer composition comprising a linear biocompatible polymer. Present claim 1 and claims dependent from claim 1 for example disclose various pharmaceutical compositions comprising effective amounts of an angiotensin II receptor antagonist and/or ACAT inhibitors and various combinations thereof in conjunction with the practicing steps and processes for the use thereof. It

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would present a serious search burden to the Examiner due to the multiplicity of varying susceptibilities, properties and distinct characteristics, if all claimed species were searched together.

### ***Rejoinder***

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i). The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. All claims directed a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim

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remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy E. Betton whose telephone number is (571) 272-9922. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30a - 5:00p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin H. Marschel can be reached on (571) 272-0718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TEB

*Ardin H. Marschel 5/27/07*  
ARDIN H. MARSCHEL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER